

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 TRSE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
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DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN:EHICKS
APPROVED BY ARA:TATODMAN
ARA/CEN:WMATTHEWS
ARA:RARELLANO
D/HA:MSCHNEIDER(INFO)
-----116590 090123Z /62
O 090111Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 159617

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PDIP, PGOV, ES, US

SUBJECT: VISIT OF DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARELLANO

1. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS,
RICHARD ARELLANO WILL VISIT EL SALVADOR NEXT WEEK
FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF MEETING WITH PRESIDENT
ROMERO. ARELLANO IS PERSONALLY ACQUAINTED WITH
ROMERO. HIS MISSION WILL BE IN A FULLY OFFICIAL
CAPACITY.

2. THE IMMEDIATE REASON FOR THE VISIT IS RECENT
UGB THREAT TO JESUITS. ARELLANO WILL INFORM ROMERO OF
THE STRONG REACTION IN THE UNITED STATES TO THE
TERRORIST THREAT TO KILL "JESUITS AND OTHER COMMUNIST
PRIESTS" IF THEY DO NOT DEPART EL SALVADOR BEFORE
JULY 20. FYI: HE WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE ARRAY OF
OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS STRAINING OUR BILATERAL
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RELATIONS, E.G., THE RICHARDSON CASE AND HUMAN RIGHTS
CONCERNS IN GENERAL.

3. THE PLAN TO HAVE SUCH A MEETING WITH ROMERO WAS MADE
KNOWN TO MEMBERS OF RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY (WHICH INCLUDED
FATHER HEALY OF GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY) WHO MET WITH

SECRETARY VANCE TODAY (JULY 8). A SEPARATE REPORTING CABLE ON THAT MEETING TO FOLLOW SHORTLY. ARELLANO WILL ALSO INFORM SALVADORAN CONSUL IN NEW ORLEANS OF THE PROSPECTIVE TRIP. THE LATTER IS A MUTUAL FRIEND OF THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND PRESIDENT ROMERO. THE GOES IS ALSO TO LEARN OF THE TRIP FROM CHARGE MAURICIO GONZALEZ WHO WAS TOLD OF THE TRIP DURING HIS MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN, ALSO TODAY.

4. EMBASSY SHOULD ARRANGE FOR MEETING WITH ROMERO ASAP. ARELLANO IS SLATED ATTEND A CONFERENCE IN MEXICO BEGINNING WEDNESDAY JULY 13. THEREFORE, TUESDAY THE 12TH WOULD BE IDEAL TIME TO SUIT HIS SCHEDULE. HOWEVER, IF APPOINTMENT MUST TAKE PLACE LATER IN THE WEEK, HE CAN STILL MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO BE THERE. VANCE

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